

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DR. KARENINA
RELUCIO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Karenina Relucio as she retires from her position as public health officer and deputy director at the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency.

Dr. Relucio completed her medical training at Rush Medical College in 1995, residency training in Internal Medicine at Tufts—New England Medical Center in 1998 and Infectious Diseases fellowship training at Stanford in 2003. She is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases. Before coming to Napa County, she was a medical director of public health clinics, assistant health officer and chief of infectious diseases for the San Mateo County Health System from 2006 to 2015 and a clinical instructor at Stanford University Medical Center from 2003 to 2006.

In 2015, Dr. Relucio joined the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency. She runs a division spanning communicable disease control and prevention, chronic disease prevention, emergency preparedness and programs to serve families and children. Dr. Relucio is president of the Health Officers Association of California, past president of California Conference of Local Health Officers, and is on the Board of Directors for the Napa/Solano County Medical Society. Dr. Relucio served as co-chair of the Napa Opioid Safety Coalition and currently participates in multiple local and state collaborations to improve health. She served as a public health leader when she led the COVID-19 pandemic response in Napa County.

Dr. Relucio's exceptional career has earned her awards and commendations such as the Napa Solano Medical Society Physician of the Year in February 2020, the California Legislative Women's Caucus Woman of the Year in March 2021 and Napa Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in March 2022.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Dr. Karenina Relucio has served our state through her exceptional career in public health. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her today.

RICHLAND READINESS CENTER

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the grand opening of the Washington National Guard's Richland Readiness Center, the first National Guard facility in Benton County since 1947.

This new, state-of-the-art facility will give our citizen-soldiers a new place to serve and stay during their training by providing ample training, storage, classroom, common areas, and office space for a company of soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment. The grounds also include classrooms and conference rooms available to the public and will serve WSU Tri-Cities, CBC, HAMMER, Hanford Patrol, local law enforcement groups, and dozens of other community organizations. This will also become the first Washington National Guard facility that is on track to meet a LEED Gold rating for environmental considerations and green cost saving measures.

It is an honor for our district to be home to the men and women who serve our country, and I extend my congratulations to the Washington National Guard for its leadership and many years of service to our Central Washington communities.

MAYOR STEVE AUSTIN

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Mayor Steve Austin of Henderson, Kentucky, who is retiring at the end of the year after serving three terms.

Mayor Austin is a lifelong resident of Henderson. He is a graduate of Holy Name High School and Henderson Community College before he continued his education at Evansville College and at Harvard School of Business regional campus sessions.

Before being elected Mayor, he worked at Henderson's local newspaper, "The Gleaner," for more than four decades, covering a wide range of topics before serving as publisher for 22 years.

I have had the privilege of getting to know Mayor Austin well over the years. While his time as Mayor may be coming to an end, I am confident his dedication and service to Henderson will continue for many years to come.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
PATRICK ONEAL HARDY**

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Patrick "Hawk" Hardy and express my sincere gratitude for his service to our Nation.

Although he is now a resident of Kountze, Texas, Patrick was born in Port Arthur, Texas, on June 14, 1949. Patrick, known by many as "Hawk," and I first met when we were children. In our youth, we made wonderful memories playing football together.

After graduating from French High School, in Beaumont, Texas, in 1968, Hawk enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He bravely served from 1968 to 1970, earning the rank of sergeant. Former Secretary of the Navy, William K. Jones, stated the following citation while awarding Hawk with the Navy Commendation Medal:

For meritorious service, while serving with the Second Battalion, First Marines, First Marine Division in connection with the combat operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam from 20 September 1969 to 11 September 1970. Throughout this period, Sergeant Hardy performed his duties in an exemplary and highly professional manner. Following initial assignment to Company H, he was reassigned as Team Leader of the Marine Liaison Team with the Fifth Battalion, Republic of Korea Marine Corps. Participating in several major combat operations, he repeatedly distinguished himself by his courage and composure under fire. Particularly noteworthy were Sergeant Hardy's achievements on 21 July 1970 as he skillfully coordinated the maneuver of United States Marines and Korean Marines, thereby enabling them to close on an enemy force attempting to cross the Vinh Dien River and kill ten enemy soldiers. Displaying exceptional initiative and resourcefulness, he organized and supervised a training program for personnel in his section, which increased their individual proficiency and enhanced the combat effectiveness of his unit. As a result of his diligent and resourceful efforts throughout his tour in the Republic of Vietnam, the operational effectiveness of his unit was greatly enhanced. By his initiative, superb professionalism, and loyal devotion to duty, Sergeant Hardy earned the respect of all who served with him and upheld the finest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service.

Hawk attended Lamar University in Beaumont, graduating with an associate degree in law enforcement and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He worked as a deputy sheriff in Harris County from 1971 to 1981. In May of 1981, he earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence. Hawk served as a criminal investigator and First Assistant Prosecutor in Hardin, Jasper, and Tyler counties. He was a county attorney for Tyler County in 1984 and later served as the Tyler County District Attorney from 1985 to 1990. Hawk also served as a criminal investigator in Kauffman County and was appointed as the Assistant Prosecutor.

Hawk has been a student of taekwondo since the age of 16. However, in the 1970s, he also made a name for himself on the karate circuit, winning numerous titles and awards. He reached professional status after claiming the 1975 U.S. Karate Championship title. From 2000 to 2008, he competed extensively in Brazilian jiu-jitsu tournaments worldwide, winning 21 gold medals, four silver medals, and seven bronze medals. In 2004, he was the legendary Royce Gracie's first Black Belt, which Hawk stated was his proudest moment in martial arts. Hawk still holds a Black Belt in taekwondo, tang soo do, and Gracie jiu-jitsu, as well as a 5th degree in Shotokan.

Madam Speaker, it is a great pleasure to honor my friend Patrick "Hawk" Hardy. His

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

love for our country is evident in his patriotic service and diligence in protecting and defending it. He is one-of-a-kind.

SUPPORTING H.R. 8025, TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 100 SOUTH 1ST STREET IN MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, AS THE MARTIN OLAV SABO POST OFFICE

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8025, which designates the United States Postal Service facility located at 100 South Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota as the "Martin Olav Sabo Post Office."

Congressman Martin Sabo's public life began 45 years ago when he was elected to the Minnesota State House of Representatives at the young age of 22. He went on to serve with distinction as both House Speaker and minority leader until his election to Congress in 1978. Congressman Sabo served the people of Minnesota for 28 years in the house, retiring in 2006. His Chairmanship of the House Budget Committee in the 1990s set the country on a course that resulted in a federal budget surplus. While serving on the esteemed House Appropriations Committee, Congressman Sabo's astute ability to direct federal funds to key infrastructure projects, like light rail transit, transformed Minneapolis, positioning the Twin Cities for the 21st Century.

It was my profound honor to serve with Martin Sabo as a colleague in the U.S. House. Congressman Sabo was liberal, smart, and his values reflected the very best of Minnesota's traditions and heritage. Congressman Sabo was reserved and quiet Norwegian, but when he spoke the room went silent because everyone knew something worth hearing was about to be said. This made him a giant as a legislator and public servant in both the Minnesota Legislature and Congress. I will always remember Martin as the kindest of souls and one of the most effective and wise public servants I've ever known.

I want to thank Rep. ILHAN OMAR for sponsoring this piece of legislation that pays tribute to a dedicated public servant, wonderful human being, and dear friend and mentor.

CONGRATULATING GARY BIRSCHBACH

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Gary Birschbach. Gary will be recognized as the Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Greater St. Louis Area Council Boy Scouts of America. This yearly award honors a person who represents the spirit and the values of Scouting throughout the community.

Gary has been involved with Scouting for over 50 years. All 4 of his sons are Eagle

Scouts, with Kevin currently serving as a Cub Scout Leader, and Andy having served as a Girl Scout Troop Leader for 8 years. As someone that truly embodies the cornerstones of the Scout's Oath and Law, Gary is a community leader that Decatur is so fortunate to call its own.

As an owner of several McDonald's restaurants, Gary has had outstanding success in the restaurant business. His work at McDonald's first began 53 years ago when he joined as a crew member until eventually working his way up to becoming the owner of his first location.

Gary has also gone far beyond that success through his generous work of helping others in the community. Gary serves on several boards, sponsors many community events, and has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in tuition assistance through the McDonald's Archways program. This year, Gary and his team celebrated hitting the \$500,000 milestone in awards to their employees. Gary's contribution to the program has helped over 250 current and former employees attend college, earn a trade, or high school diploma.

I am thankful to have Gary in the community and know central Illinois is a better place because of him. I commend Gary on this prestigious award and know he will continue doing such needed and very appreciated work for the community. Congratulations, Gary.

HONORING SUPERVISOR BRAD WAGENKNECHT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Napa County Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht in honor of his service to our community upon his retirement.

Mr. Wagenknecht grew up in the Browns Valley area of Napa and graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Elementary Education in 1977. After college, Mr. Wagenknecht began his career as a school teacher with the Napa Unified School District where he has often been instrumental in supporting children with emotional challenges.

In 1984, Mr. Wagenknecht was elected to the Napa City Council and despite the many responsibilities of a life in public office, including a term as Mayor, he has continued to teach to this day. Mr. Wagenknecht was elected to represent the First District on the Napa County Board of Supervisors in 1998.

For more than two decades on the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Wagenknecht has made immeasurable contributions to environmental preservation. He helped gain support from Napa County to join Marin Clean Energy, instituted urban growth boundaries that limit the city's carbon footprint and increased funding for the Napa Open Space District. Mr. Wagenknecht has supported numerous local organizations including the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Napa County Children and Families Commission, the California State Association of Counties

and the Area Agency on Aging. In the face of unprecedented challenges such as the 2015 Napa Earthquake, 2017 Northern California wildfires, 2020 LNU Lightning Complex fires and the COVID-19 Pandemic, Mr. Wagenknecht remained resolute in his commitment to help Napa County rebuild and recover.

Mr. Wagenknecht has brought about significant policies to support the arts, libraries, education, youth opportunities, social justice and mental health. He has been dedicated to working with his community and hearing their concerns, holding frequent office hours whenever and wherever he could. As a lifelong athlete who runs 300 days a year, Mr. Wagenknecht has encouraged local sporting events and organizes the annual Napa County basketball game. He is a proud husband to his wife Kathy, father of five and grandfather of one.

Madam Speaker, we thank Supervisor Wagenknecht for his decades of selfless service and commitment to the people of Napa County. His efforts have made our county a more welcoming, green and enjoyable place to live. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO RUDOLPH CORDERO AND WAYNE A. GUTHER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of Rudolph Cordero and Wayne A. Guthrie, graduates of Operation Recognition Class of 2022. Operation Recognition is a program organized by the Riverside County Office of Education, with assistance from the Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services, that presents diplomas to residents of Riverside County who were unable to complete high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, or due to internment in World War II Japanese-American relocation camps. Operation Recognition provides a way to express our appreciation and gratitude for the significant contributions and sacrifices made by our veterans.

Born on November 26, 1947, Rudolph Cordero attended Garfield High School in Los Angeles for three years. Answering the call to serve his country, Rudolph enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served in the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1968 as a Hawk System mechanical repairman. He earned a National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Medal. Rudolph was honorably discharged in 1968 and began his career as a butcher.

Wayne Guthrie was born on September 1, 1953. He attended Cleveland Heights High School in Ohio from 1968 through 1972, prior to enlisting in the United States Navy. Wayne served in the Vietnam War from 1974 to 1975 as an aviation machinist and a Training Air and Administration of the Reserves. He earned two Navy Achievement Medals, four Good Conduct Medals, a National Defense Ribbon, and a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon. Wayne was honorably discharged in 1994 after 20 years of service and began his career as a computer technician.

On behalf of all Riverside County residents and a grateful nation, I want to thank these veterans for their service to our country and congratulate them on being part of the Operation Recognition Class of 2022.

RECOGNIZING RANDY J. HOWE

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Randy J. Howe on his retirement after 34 years spent protecting our nation's borders. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Howe for his service to our great nation.

After graduating from Niagara University in 1988, Mr. Howe joined the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in San Diego, California. He went on to work for the newly established U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), where he held various leadership positions, including Preclearance Director, Buffalo Area Port Director, Executive Director of Operations at the CBP Headquarters, and eventually Director of Field Operations for the Laredo Field Office.

As a native of Laredo, Texas, and a strong supporter of our law enforcement agencies along the border, I know just how demanding Mr. Howe's job can be. He and his colleagues are on the front lines of the battle against the importation of illicit drugs and human smuggling. His work is also critical to supporting trade and unlocking supply chains across North America.

Mr. Howe is responsible for operation and enforcement activities at eight international ports of entry that span 450 miles in South Texas. He leads over 3,300 dedicated officers across 18 international crossings, eight airports, three rail crossings, two dams, a sea-port, and a ferry. He also leads the Machinery Center of Excellence, which manages 37 partner accounts, incorporating 191 importers of records representing some of the nation's largest corporations.

I would also like to recognize Mr. Howe's family. He and his wife, Athina, are celebrating 30 years of marriage. His children have followed in their father's footsteps to serve the public good: his son, Mackenzie, is also a CBP officer, and his daughter, Angelina, is a registered nurse.

On behalf of the 28th District of Texas and on behalf of a grateful nation, I want to congratulate Mr. Howe on his well-deserved retirement and thank him for his decades of service. I wish him the best in the next chapter of his life.

COMMENDING PAUL E. FISHER

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the life of my fellow North Carolinian, Paul E. Fisher. Mr. Fisher was the driving force behind F&M Financial Corporation and F&M Bank for almost 60 years. He was

a tireless community leader and volunteer until his passing on October 30, 2020.

As Chairman and CEO of F&M Bank, Mr. Fisher believed that community banking offered an opportunity to improve the quality of life for all his clients and the communities he was privileged to serve. He volunteered on the NC Banking Commission for a decade and was President and Treasurer of the NC Banking Association, in addition to serving two terms as Dean of the NC School of Banking.

Forever tied to the success of F&M Bank, Mr. Fisher was better known for his warm heart and decades of local fundraising efforts to build the Saleeby-Fisher YMCA, The Rowan County Chamber of Commerce's Gateway Building, the Rowan Helping Ministries homeless shelter, the Bell Tower Green Park, as well as a myriad of other facilities and causes ranging from the arts, healthcare, human needs, and youth. He always wanted to leave the world a little better than he found it. His drive to plant a tree under whose shade he will never sit was his most telling attribute.

Over his nearly 83 years, Mr. Fisher had a very simple recipe for life: show up, find a way to be useful, and love with all your heart. He was grateful for the friendship and love shown to him by the people of Rowan County, the State of North Carolina, and all those who helped him along life's path.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to commend Mr. Paul E. Fisher of F&M Bank and Salisbury, North Carolina for a lifetime of service to his community.

RECOGNIZING THE COLORADO
MUSIC INSTITUTE

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Colorado Music Institute (CMI) in Centennial, Colorado for being recognized as the 2022 National Music School of the Year by the Music Academy Success System.

Founded in 1996, CMI has been at the forefront of the music community in the state of Colorado. CMI has been steadfast in its commitment to teaching students of all ages—believing people are never too old to pick up an instrument and try a new skill. Their reach extends far beyond Colorado—as students from all over the world seek out lessons there.

This year, music schools around the nation worked to regain their rhythm with a return to predominantly in-person learning. Bringing music and joy to the community, CMI has a diverse staff from all over the world cultivating and developing students' musical talent and establishing the foundation for a lifelong love of music. CMI believes that music should be all about joy, therefore aiming to be Colorado's most fun, welcoming, and professional music school.

The National Music School of the Year award is presented annually to a school that has made significant contributions to the music industry. Hundreds of schools around the country compete for this highly prestigious award.

Teachers have a tremendous impact on the lives of their students no matter the age. I

commend CMI for their tireless dedication to their students, and congratulate them for receiving this recognition. It is an honor to recognize CMI and their achievements.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN P.
DAILEY, P.E., GENERAL MAN-
AGER OF THE FAIRFAX DRAIN-
AGE DISTRICT OF WYANDOTTE
COUNTY

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephen P. Dailey, Professional Engineer and General Manager of the Fairfax Drainage District of Wyandotte County for his exemplary professional accomplishments.

Mr. Dailey's career in public service began after graduating from the University of Missouri—Kansas City with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and becoming licensed as a professional engineer. He spent 14 years in the municipal well drilling industry prior to his time at Fairfax Drainage District.

Throughout Mr. Dailey's 30-year tenure as General Manager, he was responsible for protecting investments amounting to nearly \$6 billion in a 2,000-acre industrial park. He oversaw preparations and guided flood control operations for multiple record-breaking high-water events, a highlight that only begins to scratch the surface of three decades working in honorable service to Kansas.

Beyond supervising operation and maintenance of the district's complex flood projection system comprised of 5 miles of levee, over 100 relief wells, 12 pump stations and a computerized communications network, Mr. Dailey spent 27 years serving on the Fairfax Industrial Association Board of Directors and over 15 years as an active board member and committee chair of the Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition, promoting water resource management for effective flood control and navigation works.

I've also had the pleasure of working with Mr. Dailey while in Congress. Last year, I had the pleasure of sponsoring community project funding to perform maintenance of the Fairfax Jersey Creek Upper Levee. I commend Mr. Dailey for his dedication to our state and to our country, and the 120-plus businesses in the Kansas City, Kansas community he has tirelessly worked to support and protect.

HONORING MARY WADE AS IOWAN
OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to name Mary Wade of Red Oak, Iowa as Iowan of the Week. Mary is a lifelong Iowan who has worked with Nishna Productions for 37 years improving the wellbeing of individuals with disabilities across Southwest Iowa. Mary's dedicated work developing life and job skills for those in need deserves recognition.

Mary began working for Nishna Productions when she was 19 years old, serving as Activity Coordinator and as direct care staff. Mary helped her Nishna Productions clients learn how to cook, clean, and manage money. Mary then became a supervisor at the group homes in Red Oak where she led the staff and continued to work in direct care with the clients. Mary's help growing the skills of her clients ensured that individuals with disabilities can retain independence and find success living in their communities.

Mary then transferred back to work as a Program Instructor with Nishna Productions. Working directly with clients, Mary began to teach classes developing important life skills. From there, Mary transferred to the vocational department to focus on the development of employable skills. Nishna Productions has its own laundry service in which clients can develop working skills, while Nishna Productions also contracts with small businesses to fulfill their basic labor needs. By supporting individuals with disabilities in a comfortable environment, Mary has helped grow confidence with those who need it the most.

Currently, Mary is the lead supervisory staff member at Nishna Production's Red Oak and Shenandoah sites. While she now leads over-all day to day operations, Mary still finds the most enjoyment in direct work with clients. Mary believes that each client is their own unique person and that a one size fits all approach would be ineffective. Providing unique care for each client takes a full team effort, and Mary and her team at Nishna Productions remain committed to tailoring their programming and operations to fit each individual person and the needs of the community.

I am thankful to Mary for her work empowering individuals with support and opportunity to meet their goals, and I am proud to name Mary Wade as Iowan of the Week.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS SECOND LIEUTENANT JOHN GRAHAM

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate United States Marine Corps Second Lieutenant John Graham, who recently completed USMC Officer Candidate School at Quantico, Virginia. John was an exceptional member of my staff for the past two years before leaving for Quantico. While we were sad when he departed, we were extremely proud he was going to become a Marine Corps officer. We always want to support our United States Marine Corps and we know that John will be upholding their finest traditions.

HONORING STEVEN METLER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Steven Metler

in recognition of his dedicated service as a Constituent Service Representative in my Vallejo District Office.

Mr. Metler was born in Vallejo, California and grew up in American Canyon. He attended Solano Community College before enrolling in California State University, Sacramento, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government in 2016. It was also during this time that he trained in German and spent six months at the Europa-Universität Flensburg studying International Political Economy.

After gaining valuable experience in the customer service industry, and rising to Department Manager of the Napa Walmart, Mr. Metler began his career in public service as an intern in my Napa district office. In this role, Mr. Metler communicated with constituents, helped organize and execute our events, and supported district staff with numerous state and national issues.

In 2020, he joined the staff of Assembly member Cecilia Aguiar Curry as a Field Representative where he liaised with government agencies and continued to assist the people of Napa. Mr. Metler served as a substitute teacher with the Napa Unified School District before he rejoined our team as a Constituent Service Representative in our Napa District Office before transferring to our Vallejo District Office.

As a Constituent Service Representative, Mr. Metler has successfully assisted with over 230 constituent requests ranging from wildfire assistance to passport applications. He has routinely gone above and beyond in his duties, ensuring that our events are well executed and that no constituent is left without the support they deserve. Because of his dedication, Mr. Metler recently won our casework hero award which honors the staff person in our district offices who did the most outstanding job with casework that quarter.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Metler for his hard work, enthusiasm and enduring commitment to the people of California's 5th District. He has been an exemplary member of our staff and a valuable asset to his community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF GREGORY D. COUNTRYMAN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated husband and father, trailblazing Law Enforcement Officer and public servant, Sheriff Gregory D. Countryman. Sheriff Countryman was honored as the Community Service Person of the Year by the Controllers Civic and Social Club in Columbus, Georgia on December 3, 2022.

Born in Plains, Georgia, Countryman's family moved to Columbus, Georgia when his father was assigned to Fort Benning. He is a product of the Muscogee County School System, graduating from Baker High School in 1984. Although he struggled in his early life to overcome a learning disability, this challenge did not deter him from seeking higher education. He would go on to earn an impressive collection of degrees, including an Associate's

Degree from Georgia Military College; a Bachelor of Science Degree from Troy State University; a Master of Public Administration Degree from Columbus State University; a Master of Arts in Practical Theology from Ohio Christian University and, finally, a Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Counseling from Saint Thomas Christian University.

Countryman has been a dedicated public servant who has consistently gone above and beyond for the people of the Chattahoochee Valley region. He has dutifully served his community for thirty years as a highly respected law enforcement professional. As a Deputy in the Muscogee County Sheriffs Department, he served in the bureaus of Field services, Court Services, and the Fugitives and Jail Divisions. In 2004, he was elected to serve as the Marshal of Muscogee County, and he would go on to serve three terms.

As Marshal, Countryman was a visionary leader for law enforcement officials in Muscogee County and the state of Georgia. Desiring to improve public safety services beyond his community, he founded the Georgia Marshal Training Network, a non-profit organization to provide education and training to Marshals across the state and served as president of the organization. He believes that education is the passport to the future, and the future belongs to those who prepare for it today. With that vision in mind, he created the Junior Marshal Program for Middle School students which mentored and instilled within them the essential values of citizenship, leadership, education, fun, and teamwork. Since 2005, the Junior Marshal Program worked with nearly 2,000 young people, building lasting relationships between law enforcement and future generations, and making Muscogee County a safer place to live.

In 2020, Marshal Gregory Countryman made history by becoming the first African American to be elected Sheriff of Muscogee County, Georgia. After serving his community faithfully and effectively for over two decades, the people of Muscogee elected him sheriff with nearly 75 percent of the vote, demonstrating great trust in his ability to fairly enforce the laws and make our community safer.

It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Sheriff Countryman has paid his rent and he has paid it well. In addition to serving as the top law enforcement official for the second largest city in the state, he has given dedicated service to various organizations in his community to include Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc.; Electric City Masonic Lodge No. 322; the Georgia Marshal Training Network; American Legion 267 (SAL Member); the Fraternal Order of Police; the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives; the Police Benevolent Association and the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police.

Knowing that public safety is a crucial and everchanging field, Sheriff Countryman has not rested on his laurels and has always tried to stay on the cutting edge of Law Enforcement Training and initiatives. He is a graduate of the Georgia Regional Command College Class No. 26, attended the FBI's Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (L.E.E.D.S) training, and served as a former Assistant Adjunct Professor at Georgia Military College where he helped effectively train new prospective recruits in the field of law enforcement.

Sheriff Countryman has served and achieved so much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God and love and support of his wife, Angela, and their three sons, Christopher, Gregory, Jr. (a Muscogee County Deputy Sheriff) and William.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District in recognizing, honoring, and commending Sheriff Gregory D. Countryman on receiving the Community Service Person of The Year Award from the Controllers Civic and Social Club in Columbus, Georgia. We commend and thank him for his selfless service to God, his community, and humankind.

RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF BEN
ROYDEN OGLETREE, JR.

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Ben Ogletree, Jr.

Ben was born on October 6, 1938, in Livingston, Texas. He graduated from Livingston High School in 1956 and married the love of his life, Janice Helen Clark, on January 31, 1958.

Ben graduated in the class of 1960 from the University of Texas, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a focus on industrial management. He spent the next 25 years overseeing his family's land, timber, and wood products business.

In 1970, East Texas Bancshares, Inc., a bank holding company, elected Ben to serve on their Board of Directors and Executive Committee. As a devoted public servant, he also sat on the Livingston City Council for 32 years, spending 22 of those years as mayor of Livingston. In 1985, Ben became president and Chief Executive Officer of First State Bank. Later, he served as Chairman of the Board for both First State Bank and East Texas Bancshares, Inc. To recognize his years of outstanding service to the community, Polk County named him 1989's Polk Countian of the Year. In 1991, Ben graduated from Southern Methodist University's Southwestern Graduate School of Banking.

After a long career in business, Ben retired in 2005. However, he still serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for First State Bank. In addition to Ben's earnest commitment to his community, he is also incredibly passionate about flying and has held a commercial pilot's license for more than 50 years with ratings for multi-engine, instrument, and flight instructor. Ben continues to put the needs of others first while enjoying cherished hobbies like hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family. He is the father of three, grandfather to eight, and great-grandfather to five.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor my friend, Ben Ogletree, Jr., who has faithfully and humbly served his community, our state, and our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF EARLE FRANCIS JONES

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my dear friend, Earle Francis Jones who recently announced his retirement from Comcast NBCUniversal. Earle has been a fixture on the Hill for many years and I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating him on a successful and storied career. Furthermore, I'd like to acknowledge the contributions Earle has made to the CBC community. They are too many to list here, but suffice it to say, the CBC can't thank Earle enough for his support and counsel to the CBC and the CBCF throughout the years.

Earle was born in Washington, D.C. to Earle Sr. and the former Sylvia Carroll. He is a product of the District of Columbia Public School system where he attended historic Coolidge High School.

There, he excelled in sports, music, and community service. Earle furthered his education by attending American University in Washington, D.C. He then went on to attend the University of California at Berkeley where he received his Juris Doctorate from the prestigious Boalt Hall School of Law.

Following law school, Earle practiced law at Holland and Hart in Denver, Colorado before entering private practice. During that time, he served on the Judicial Ethics Advisory Board as the Ethics Counselor for Colorado lawyers and as an adjunct Law Professor at the University of Denver.

Upon returning to Washington, D.C., Earle joined Tele-Communications, Inc. (TCI) in 1989 where he served as Division Director for Government Affairs and then its Federal Communications Commission Washington Counsel. For three years, he led Washington, D.C.'s District Cablevision as its General Manager and oversaw Comcast's acquisition of District Cablevision from AT&T in 2001.

In 2009, Earle joined Comcast Corporation's Washington Federal Government Affairs where he cultivated a reputation for being an expert on issues and a sought-after counselor and mentor to many on the Hill—especially in the CBC community.

Madam Speaker, I'm proud to say Earle Jones is my friend. I've always been impressed by his integrity and his ability to have empathy for others. I'd like to thank him for all the years he served on the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Board where he always provided excellent counsel and support.

Please join me in congratulating Earle Jones on a remarkable career and wishing him the best as he spends more time with his son Steve, daughter-in-law Heather and grandchildren Ryan and Rachel.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives I congratulate Earle Francis Jones on his remarkable career and his contributions to our Country and our community.

HONORING MAJOR CRAIG A.
OVERHOLT

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Major Craig A. Overholt as he retires from the United States Army. For over two decades, Major Overholt's commitment to service has enabled him to excel in numerous leadership positions throughout the Army, including most recently as an Army Legislative Liaison.

Major Overholt's career began when he enlisted in the United States Army in 2002. He received his commission as a Quartermaster Officer in 2011 after graduating as the Distinguished Military Graduate from the Georgia Southern University ROTC program. Since then, he developed a reputation as a tactical and technical expert, who has served in the most demanding assignments in the Army, including multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

I had the distinct honor of hosting Major Overholt as a Defense Fellow in my office. While serving as my Defense Fellow and as a Legislative Liaison, Craig's interpersonal skills and character enabled him to clearly communicate priorities, ensuring members were educated on Army combat systems, modernization programs, and policy initiatives. Due to his exceptional work on military childcare, the Military Officers Association of America awarded him the Colonel Paul W. Arcari Meritorious Service Award, an award that honors congressional staffers who have made significant contributions to the military community. Craig also led multiple Congressional Delegations to various locations around the globe, distinguishing himself by continuously going above and beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of Congress.

This Chamber will feel Major Overholt's absence. On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank Major Craig Overholt for his outstanding leadership and remarkable sacrifices during his time in the Army Legislative Liaison Office and United States Army. I truly appreciate Craig and his family for their unwavering support to our Army, our Soldiers, and our Nation, and I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BELLE-
VUE POLICE OFFICER JORDAN
JACKSON

HON. KIM SCHRIER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Ms. SCHRIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bellevue Police Officer Jordan Jackson, who tragically died while on duty on November 21st.

Officer Jackson was born in Spokane, Washington and attended Issaquah High School, then later attended Central Washington University. Even before his life as a police officer, Officer Jackson devoted his life to public service as a first responder. He was an EMT, volunteer firefighter, and a member of the King County Sheriffs Office Search and Rescue Volunteer K-9 Unit.

Officer Jackson was commended by the department for his leadership and enthusiasm to take on more responsibility and was recently awarded Employee of the Quarter for his excellent quality of work and service to the community.

Officer Jackson resided in Cle Elum and was known as a family man who volunteered often for community events and was always proud to show off his motorcycle to all the kids. He was an avid cyclist and previously worked at the ReCycle Bicycle Shop in Ellensburg. He is survived by his wife Kelsey and his two young children. Our community will miss him dearly, and I am so grateful for his lifelong service and dedication.

HONORING MR. ANSIL LEWIS,
FLORIDA'S THIRD CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT 2022 VETERAN
OF THE YEAR

HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, on behalf of Florida's Third Congressional District, we honor Mr. Ansil Lewis as the 2022 Veteran of the Year.

Mr. Lewis served as a Sergeant Major in the United States Marine Corps from 1987 to 2017. While serving, he received the Bronze Star; Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Unit Commendation, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Medal. After years of military service, Mr. Lewis has continued to show his dedication to our community as the past Commandant of the Roy S. Geiger Marine Corps League Detachment 1047, a member of the board for Operation Bambas, and the President of the Veterans Council of Clay County.

We thank Mr. Lewis for his service and sacrifices for our Nation and hope that his volunteer spirit will continue for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 489 and YEA on Roll Call No. 501.

HONORING MEL ORPILLA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mel Orpilla in recognition of nearly a decade as an invaluable member of my district staff and his service to Vallejo's Filipino community.

Mr. Orpilla was born on September 6, 1961 at the Vallejo General Hospital to Nazario and

Fofelia Orpilla. After studying at California State University, Sacramento and San Francisco State University, he became the Executive Director of the Fighting Back Partnership in 1996. In this capacity, Mr. Orpilla played a major role in the fight against substance abuse in Vallejo, leading an anti-drug coalition, meeting with political leaders, and assisting with grant requests. In 2004, he joined Kaiser Permanente as a Community and Government Relations Manager and in 2013, joined our team as a district representative and was later promoted to a Senior District Representative for the Solano and Contra Costa portions of California's 5th District. He has successfully assisted over 975 constituents with a wide range of requests from government financial assistance to immigration.

Mr. Orpilla has made immeasurable contributions to Vallejo, and in particular its Filipino community. Over the course of more than 25 years, he has led countless workshops and speaking engagements on substance abuse, community support, and the challenges facing Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Northern California. Mr. Orpilla's passion for sharing the Filipino American story, led to him founding the Filipino American National Historical Society of Vallejo and writing his 2004 book *Filipinos in Vallejo*. He has served on the boards of the Salvation Army of Solano County, Rebuilding Together Solano County, the Filipino American National Historical Society and the Benicia Vallejo Humane Society. A descendant of the Cordilleras tribes in the Northern Philippines, Mr. Orpilla is an expert in the ancient Filipino fighting art Balintawak Arnis and teaches it at the Island Warriors Dojo in Vallejo. His heritage can also be seen on the various Ifugao warrior markings tattooed across his body.

Mr. Orpilla is a devoted husband to his wife Nancy, proud father of Jacob and Tony, stepfather to Justine and Gabe and loving caretaker of three dogs, Chiko, Boo-boo and Fatboy.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Orpilla for his dedication and hard work for the people of California's 5th District. His efforts to better his community, build coalitions and preserve proud Filipino traditions will undoubtedly be felt for decades to come. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING KITSAP COUNTY
COMMISSIONER EDWARD WOLFE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and Kitsap County Commissioner, Edward Wolfe. After 8 years of service in his role as County Commissioner, he is retiring.

Prior to serving as County Commissioner, he was a Kitsap attorney for 20 years, founding the litigation firm Wolfe Law Offices in 1997. He is a past president of the Kitsap County Bar Association and a former judge pro tem in county, municipal, and district courts.

Raised in Norfolk, Virginia, Commissioner Wolfe is a graduate of the George Mason University School of Law. He served in the U.S.

Army and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Ambassador and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in both the Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush administrations. Community service has long been a part of Commissioner Wolfe's career in Kitsap County. He has been a Bremerton Rotarian for 20 years and board member of the Bremerton Boys & Girls Club and Olympic College Foundation and is past president of the Puget Sound Naval Bases Association and Bremerton Chamber of Commerce.

Ed brought logic, rationality and reason to his discussions and negotiations in all of his responsibilities as county commissioner, fighting for what he thought was the right thing to do. He treated all people respectfully. He stopped to listen to his constituents, advocating for their needs with compassion and a commitment to community. And he worked collaboratively with other elected officials—serving as a productive partner on issue after issue.

Commissioner Wolfe has a long list of accomplishments during his tenure. He led the charge on the opening of the new Bucklin Hill Bridge in Silverdale and invited the Crista Shores residents to be the first to cross it. He was a partner in supporting the opening of a new state of the art hospital in Silverdale. He's been an advocate of funding for a new county courthouse to replace an aging and inadequate facility. Personally, I appreciated his long-time partnership as we worked to turn the dream of a new VA Clinic in Kitsap County into a reality. In addition, throughout the pandemic, Commissioner Wolfe pushed for proactive communication with the community about resources the County and Kitsap Public Health District were providing to support health and safety. He also ensured business needs were heard, proactively communicating local needs to Washington State's governor.

Commissioner Wolfe and his wife, Wendy, are looking forward to spending more time with family including their son Steven, grandson, Owen, and a granddaughter coming in late December.

Madam Speaker, beyond his many accomplishments, I would also like to express gratitude for the partner that Ed Wolfe has been to the members of my team—and to me. I'm proud to call him a friend. Please join me in congratulating Ed Wolfe on his service to Kitsap County and the state of Washington. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVAL
SUBMARINE LEAGUE

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I am proud to congratulate the Naval Submarine League on their upcoming 40th Annual Symposium, and to thank them for their diligent work to support the men and women of the Silent Service.

The Naval Submarine League was founded in 1982 as a non-profit organization for civilians, as well as active-duty, reserve, and retired military members who remain passionate about the importance of submarines for national security. Members work to promote education, awareness, and research to increase

the practical usage of submarines in today's world.

As we mark the 40th year of the League's existence, we are reminded of the incredible devotion and commitment of our sailors who ply the waters of the globe.

On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 13th District, I congratulate the Naval Submarine League on their accomplishments and efforts and join in celebration of their 40th symposium.

HONORING JUDGE JAMES WILLIAM HUFF

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge James William Huff, a native of Three Rivers, Texas who has served his community in a multitude of roles for over four decades.

While in school at Texas A&M University, Judge Huff worked as a substitute teacher at Bryan High School. After graduation, he started his career in criminal justice working in courtroom support for the Bexar County District Clerk Criminal Division. Judge Huff then ascended to the role of Patrol Sargent at the University Police Department. Later he served as a Patrol Deputy for Nueces County and then for the Live Oak County's Sheriff Department. In 1987, he was first elected to his current role as Live Oak County Judge, where he has served honorably for the last 36 years.

Judge Huff sits on a number of boards and committees that seek to make Live Oak County a better and safer place to live. He is Chairman of the Coastal Plains Community Center which provides mental health services to 9 counties. As chairman of the Dispute Resolution Services, he helps provide mediation services for 6 different counties. He also

serves as Chairman of the Three Rivers Economic Development Corporation, Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, and is a board member of the 36th Judicial District Juvenile Probation.

Judge Huff has also received numerous accolades for his leadership and service to South Texas. In 2017, Judge Huff received the Senator Rodney Ellis Award for Courtroom Excellence from the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. He has also received the Texas Gideon Recognition Award from the Texas Indigent Defense Commission which recognized Bee, McMullen, and Live Oak counties for the first regional approach to indigent defense by creating a 3-county public defender's office. Additionally, Judge Huff has been named Citizen of the Year in the cities of Three Rivers and George West.

Madam Speaker, Judge James Huff is an incredible leader with an unwavering commitment to justice and public service. His legacy will have a lasting impact on Live Oaks County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I missed the vote on H.R. 8876 as the vote closed before I reached the chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 500.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF TIM O'KEEFE

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Tim O'Keefe as he retires from his role as CEO of the Golden Rain Foundation (GRF) of Rossmore in Walnut Creek.

Tim's compassion and commitment to advocacy have been evident throughout his career. In 1994, he began working for Catholic Charities, serving as Associate Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer. In 2005, Tim stepped into the role of Executive Director at Shelter Inc., helping to provide housing solutions, family support, mental health care, and childcare services for families in need and working to prevent homelessness in the Bay Area. Thanks to Tim's leadership, Shelter Inc. was recognized as one of the top 10 homelessness service providers of the Bay Area. After nearly a decade with Shelter Inc., he stepped into the role of CEO of the Golden Rain Foundation, working on behalf of Rossmore residents.

In his position with GRF, Tim has spearheaded a variety of projects aimed at engaging Rossmore residents and allowing residents to thrive. Under Tim's leadership, GRF has successfully provided a wide range of programs and amenities to the Rossmore community. GRF maintains and provides recreational spaces within Rossmore, enabling residents to easily connect with other community members and promoting an active, healthy lifestyle within the community.

Tim's hard work and dedication have helped to transform the lives of countless Contra Costa and Bay Area residents. Please join me in congratulating Tim as he retires after nearly three decades of public service.